

AMENDED REPLACEMENT ABSTRACT MARKED UP TO
SHOW ALL CHANGES RELATIVE TO THE PREVIOUS VERSION
OF THAT ABSTRACT

A spray application system is disclosed having an enclosure with a spray chamber, a spray applicator within the chamber, and [at least one] a liquid barrier such as a sprayed water curtain, within the chamber, [disposed] upstream or downstream of the spray applicator. The [liquid barrier may take the form of a sprayed water curtain. The water forming the liquid barrier] water is preferably sprayed [in a] downward [direction] to create a vacuum for drawing the treating substance downward into the liquid barrier. [Each] The liquid barrier [is also] preferably [disposed so that it] does not contact the workpieces [as the workpieces pass through the chamber, the workpieces instead passing above each liquid barrier] that instead pass overhead. Independent pressure gauges and flow regulators may be used for the upstream liquid barrier, the downstream liquid barrier, and the spray applicator. [Each liquid barrier may be created using a header assembly with one or more nozzles, and the nozzles may be disposed on opposite sides of the chamber and directed toward a center portion of a width of the chamber to create the barrier or curtain.] The chamber may have a roof section that is secured to a beam or other process line support, and the walls may be [secured to and] suspended from the roof section. [In a preferred, alternate embodiment, the] The roof section may have an opening running across its length to allow hangers from [a] an overhead processing line [disposed above the chamber] to pass through the chamber. [Access doors may be provided on both sides of the chamber.]

